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NOVEL, FERRIE TIED BY DA'S AFFIDAVIT

Conspiracy to Burglarize Arms Bunker, Charge

By ROBERT USSERY

District Attorney Jim Garrison Friday publicly linked key assassination conspiracy probe figure Gordon Novel with the late David William Ferrie and Sergio Arcacha Smith in an affidavit charging Arcacha and Novel with conspiracy to commit simple burglary.

Arrest warrants for Arcacha, believed to be in Dallas, and Novel, reportedly in Montreal, Canada, were sworn out on the basis of the affidavit, which states that the two conspired in August of 1961 to burglarize a munitions bunker in Houma, La.

Arcacha, who billed himself as an anti-Castroite, established the New Orleans Chapter of the Cuban Democratic Revolutionary Front in December of 1960, before the Bay of Pigs invasion.

Reports indicate that Ferrie, a pilot, was active in anti-Cuban affairs, and was closely associated with Arcacha in 1961.

The affidavit charges that "Gordon Novel, and one Sergio Arcacha Smith, each, between the first day of August, 1961, and the thirty-first (of) August (nineteen) sixty-one did wilfully and unlawfully conspire with David W. Ferrie, herein named but not charged and others, not herein named, to commit simple burglary of a munitions bunker located in Houma, Louisiana, in order to obtain explosives and other forms of munitions, belonging to Schlumberger Well Services, a corporation authorized to do business in the state of Louisiana."

Ferrie, who died of natural causes in his apartment at 3330 Louisiana Ave. Parkway on Feb.



—Photo by The Times-Picayune.
SERGIO ARCACHA SMITH
Charged with burglary conspiracy.

22, had said that he was pegged as a getaway pilot in an alleged conspiracy to murder President John F. Kennedy.

The only person indicted in the alleged assassination conspiracy investigation is Clay Shaw, local businessman. The district attorney's office in an affidavit for a search warrant application stated that Shaw conspired with Ferrie

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and Lee Harvey Oswald and others in Ferrie's apartment to murder the President.

Criminal Sheriff Louis A. Heyd Jr., immediately after receipt of the arrest warrants, contacted Dallas police and the Royal Mounted Police in Quebec, Canada, requesting that Arcacha and Novel be arrested, and said that certified copies of the warrants would be sent to the two places by airmail special delivery.

BURGLARY OCCURRED

William Gurvich, a private investigator who is Garrison's chief aide, said that a burglary of the munitions bunker in Houma actually occurred in August, 1961, but that Novel and Arcacha have been charged only with a conspiracy which allegedly occurred in the juris-

diction of the district attorney's office.

Gurvich said that the "others" mentioned in the affidavit are known and will be arrested.

"The identity of the others is known and appropriate action will be taken relative to arrests at the proper time," he said.

Earlier Friday, Shaw's arraignment was set for 10:30 a. m. Wednesday. Criminal District Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr., who will preside at the arraignment and at Shaw's trial, announced that he will issue a new set of guidelines governing conduct of persons involved in the case "more extensive" than those in effect at Shaw's preliminary hearing.

William Alford, an assistant district attorney, requested that the arraignment be set for Wednesday, and F. Irvin Dymond, chief defense attorney,

said the date was agreeable to him.

Dymond said that the plea to the assassination conspiracy charge will be not guilty, and added that he will ask for 30 days in which to file special pleadings.

Judge Haggerty said he will call a news conference for 2 p. m. Monday at which he will "spell out the conduct of persons concerned" since the case has been allotted to his section of court.

The guidelines will cover arraignment, all pleadings and the trial "until the case is concluded. These rules and regulations will have to be obeyed by persons involved," he said.

He said emphatically that the guidelines "will consist of orders and will not consist of suggestions and advisements."

Garrison expressed the opinion Wednesday that Haggerty was just making a "suggestion" in handing out a previous set of guidelines. "The district attorney can make any statements he wishes," Garrison had said.